

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-19, and 21 were pending. Claims 5-6, 13, and 16-21 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to further clarify the nature of the claimed invention. Therefore, claims 1-3, 7-11, and 14-15 remain pending subsequent entry of this amendment.

In the Drawings

During a phone interview with examiner John Tabone, Jr. on April 25, 2005, Mr. Tabone agreed to withdraw all drawing objections in the present Office Action. Accordingly, no drawing changes are included herein.

Claim Rejections

In the present Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-19, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coleman et al. (U.S. 4,562,436; hereinafter "Coleman"), in view of newly cited U.S. Patent 6,182,246 (hereinafter "Gregory"). Applicant respectfully submits each of the currently pending claims are patentable over the cited art.

As amended, claim 1 recites a method which includes:

“transmitting data via a first transmitter, wherein said data comprises:

a first data comprising a test pattern; and

a second data, wherein said second data comprises a first portion of an
identifier of the first transmitter;

receiving the first data and said second data at a first receiver;

transmitting a first feedback data from said first receiver to said first transmitter,
in response to determining said first data is correct, wherein said first

feedback data is selected to be equal to said first portion of the identifier of the first transmitter;

transmitting a second feedback data from said first receiver to said first transmitter, wherein said second feedback data comprises the complement of said first portion of the identifier of the first transmitter, in response to determining said first data is not correct.” (emphasis added).

As seen from the above recitation, feedback from the second transmitter may generally be equal to the received portion of the transmitter identifier, or the feedback may comprise the complement of the received portion of the transmitter identifier. The combination of cited art in the present Office Action does not disclose or suggest these features.

The present Office Action (pages 5-6), suggests combining Coleman and Gregory in such a way that both a positive acknowledgement (ACK) and a negative acknowledgement (NACK) are accompanied by the logical_id byte of the message HEADER. Accordingly, Coleman’s ACK (a single zero byte 0x00, Coleman, col. 75, lines 25-27) may be accompanied by a logical_id byte of the HEADER, and the NACK (a single non-zero byte) may also be accompanied by the logical_id byte of the HEADER. However, there is nothing in the cited art which discloses or suggests the use and/or complementing of the transmitter identifier as recited in the claim above. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited art for at least the reasons given above, and a prima facie case of obviousness is not established. In addition, because claim 9 includes features similar to that of claim 1, claim 9 is also patentable distinct from the cited art.

Applicant believes the application to now be in condition for allowance. However, if the examiner believes issues remain which would prevent the application from proceeding to allowance, a telephone interview is requested and would greatly be appreciated in order to facilitate a resolution. The below signed representative can be reached at (512) 853-8866.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5181-91500/RDR.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,



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